



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Adress: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/516,954	06/27/2005	Kari Saviharu	JHN-30-574	8619
23117	7590	02/18/2009	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC			RINEHART, KENNETH	
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ARLINGTON, VA 22203			3743	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
02/18/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/516,954	Applicant(s) SAVIHARJU ET AL.
	Examiner KENNETH B. RINEHART	Art Unit 3743

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 December 2008.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 5-7-12,14-16,18-30 and 32-34 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 5-7-9,11,12,14-16,18-30 and 32-34 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 10 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 12/11/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding applicant's arguments concerning claims 32 and 34, the applicant has not provided support for the claim language " combustion gases from the cavity mix in the narrow section with flue gases passing through the narrow section" instead the applicant discusses broad claim language pertaining to the location adjacent the narrow section. . The text of the specification does not indicate that gas from the cavity is mixed in the narrow section. Regarding the amendment to claim 32, giving the claim its broadest reasonable interpretation the outlet is adjacent a narrow section of the flue gas passage. Regarding the statement concerning claim 34, as can be seen from the figure, 72,74,51 are all in fluid communication, and as evidenced by Hamm, tubed walls are well known in the art. Regarding claims 5,7 to 9, and 19-27, the communication argument has been dealt with earlier and Hamm teaches the water cooled tube walls. The applicant argues that there is no cavity. Clearly, 4 is divided by a wall as can be seen from the figure. Therefore, there is a cavity formed by the wall dividing 13. The applicant argues that '690 does not teach a plurality of superheaters and forming the superheater form water cooled tubes of the walls of the boiler. '690 is not used to teach these limitations.

Regarding applicant's comments concerning claims 5,7,9 to 12, 14 15 and 18, clearly, Hamm discloses water cooled tubes at 1 (see col. 3, lines 5-15) and as can be seen there is a cavity at 14 and there is communication via 28. Regarding the applicant's comments concerning Hamm not teaching a wall, it is Engstrom which teaches the wall. Regarding Olausson, any fair reading of the reference reveals among other things the use of quartenary air to reduce nitrogen oxide

emissions and the presence of a bullnose. In addition, there is no specific reference to SNCR in the claims. Therefore, the reference reads on the claim limitations for the location opposite the bullnose. Regarding applicant's comments concerning claims 28 to 30 and 32-34, in response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 32 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 32 and 34 refer to combustion gases from the cavity initially mix in the narrow section with flue gases passing through the narrow section which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 32 , 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 92/18690. WO 92/18690 discloses a boiler including walls defining a furnace and a flue gas passage (fig. 1), at least one liquor injector (40) arranged to inject liquor into the furnace, and at least one superheater (15) arranged in the flue gas passage for combustion gases generated in the furnace and flowing through the flue gas passage ; water cooled tubes arranged in at least one of the walls defining the furnace (page 13, lines 27-30); a combustion cavity (22)separate from the furnace and having a cavity wall formed of water cooled tubes (72); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (end of 62); a cavity combustion gas outlet discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (arrow above 51), wherein the combustion gas outlet is adjacent a narrow section of the flue gas passage and the combustion gases from the cavity initially mix in the narrow section with flue gases passing through the narrow section, wherein the narrow section of the flue gas passage is immediately upstream of the at least one superheater of the boiler (This mixing will inherently occur when the gases meet.), the water cooled tubes of the cavity wall are in fluid communication with the water cooled tubes in the walls defining the furnace (72,74,51), and the system including: a superheater (51) in the furnace generating superheated steam, and a cavity heat exchanger (72) receiving superheated steam from the superheaters in the furnace.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 92/18690 in view of Hamm (2606103). WO 92/18690 discloses a boiler including walls defining a furnace and a flue gas passage (fig. 1), at least one liquor injector (40) arranged to inject liquor into the furnace, and at least one superheater (15) arranged in the flue gas passage for combustion gases generated in the furnace and flowing through the flue gas passage ; water cooled tubes arranged in at least one of the walls defining the furnace (page 13, lines 27-30); a combustion cavity (22) separate from the furnace and having a cavity wall formed of water cooled tubes (72); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (end of 62); a cavity combustion gas outlet discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (arrow above 51), wherein the combustion gas outlet is adjacent a narrow section of the flue gas passage and the combustion gases from the cavity initially mix in the narrow section with flue gases passing through the narrow section, wherein the narrow section of the flue gas passage is immediately upstream of the at least one superheater of the boiler (This mixing will inherently occur when the gases meet.), the ... of the cavity wall are in fluid communication with the ...in the walls defining the furnace (72,74,51), and the system including: a superheater (51) in the furnace generating superheated steam, and a cavity heat exchanger (72) receiving superheated steam from the superheaters in the furnace. Hamm teaches water cooled tubed walls (1) for the purpose of providing heat exchange. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify WO 92/18690 by including water cooled tubed walls as taught by Hamm for the purpose of providing heat exchange. The applicant is merely combining prior art according to known methods to yield predictable results.

Claims 5, 7-9, 19-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 92/18690 in view of Hamm and Engstrom (4676177). WO 92/18690 discloses a boiler further comprising a water or steam circulation system having superheaters and a furnace for recovering energy and chemicals from spent liquor combusted in the furnace (18, 51, fig. 1); walls of the boiler further comprising a plurality of ... in fluid communication with the water or steam circulation system, ..., cooling fluid (page 13, lines 27-30); at least one cavity (22) separate from the boiler, said cavity having cavity walls formed of ... (72) in fluid communication with the ... (51,48,50) in at least one of the walls of the boiler (18) and the water or steam circulation system (fig. 1); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (end of 62, fig. 1); at least one outlet for discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (arrow above 51, fig. 1), and an interior of the at least one cavity having a cavity heat exchanger for superheating steam generated by superheaters in the boiler (72, fig. 1), a part of the walls of the at least one cavity is formed of the ... of the boiler (72, fig. 1), the at least one cavity is located on a front wall of the boiler, and the front wall is the at least one of the walls of the boiler (18, fig. 1), the at least one outlet of the cavity is in a front wall of the boiler and said outlet is opposite to a bullnose section of a rear wall of the boiler (fig. 1), the at least one outlet for the cavity is connected to the boiler and provides a conduit for combustion gases from the at least one cavity to be discharged immediately upstream of the superheaters of the boiler (fig. 1), a boiler further comprising at least one wall defining a furnace (18, fig. 1), at least one liquor injector arranged to inject liquor into the furnace (40, fig. 1), and at least one superheater arranged in a flue gas passage for combustion gases generated in the furnace (51, fig. 1), a plurality of ... arranged in the at least one wall defining the furnace (page 13, lines 27-30); at least one cavity separate from

the furnace and having walls formed of ... (72, fig. 1), wherein fluid flowing through at least one of the ... of the at least one wall defining the furnace flows through at least one of the ... of the cavity and flows to the at least one superheater (page 13, lines 27-30); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (end of 62, fig. 1); at least one outlet of the cavity for discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (arrow above 51, fig. 1), and an interior of the at least one cavity being provided with a heat exchanger which receives superheated steam from the at least one superheater (72, fig. 1), the liquor injector discharges spent liquor into the furnace (40, fig. 1), the at least one superheater is a plurality of superheaters arranged in a flue gas stream of the boiler (51, surfaces, fig. 1), a part of the walls of the at least one cavity is formed of the ... of the walls of the boiler (72, fig. 1), the at least one cavity is located on a front wall of the boiler (22, fig. 1), the at least one outlet for combustion gases is connected to the boiler and provides a conduit for combustion gases from the at least one cavity to be discharged immediately upstream of the superheaters of the boiler (fig. 1), the outlet of the cavity is in a front wall of the boiler and said outlet is opposite to a bullnose section of a rear wall of the boiler (fig. 1), a gasifier for gasifying a biomass material and said gasifier produces combustion gas provided to the fuel combustor of the cavity (14, 16, fig. 1), the cavity is adjacent an outside surface of the at least one wall of the furnace (fig. 1), injecting spent liquor in the furnace to generate hot combustion flue gases in the furnace (40, fig. 1), cooling the at least one wall of the furnace by flowing cooling fluid through the wall (page 13, lines 27-30), generating hot combustion gases in the cavity (fig. 1); cooling a cavity wall of the cavity by flowing cooling fluid from the at least one wall of the furnace through the cavity wall (page 13, lines 27-30); and passing cooling fluid from the wall of the cavity to a superheater

arranged in a flue gas passage of the boiler (page 13, lines 27-30), the hot combustion gases in the cavity are discharged into the boiler upstream of the superheater (fig. 1), comprising passing fluid from the superheater in the gas passage of the boiler to a heat exchanger in the cavity (page 13, lines 27-30), the cooling fluid flows vertically upward through the wall of the furnace and then to the cavity (51, 74, fig. 1), the combustion gases in the cavity are generated by combustion gases generated in a gasifier that gasifies a biomass material, the biomass material is selected from a group consisting of natural gas, LPG, oil, methanol and liquefied biomass, a gasifier for gasifying biomass material and said gasifier produces combustion gas provided to the fuel combustor of the cavity (abstract, 16, fig. 1), passing fluid from the superheater in the gas passage of the boiler to a heat exchanger in the cavity (fig. 1, (page 13, lines 27-30). Hamm teaches water cooled tubed walls (1) for the purpose of providing heat exchange. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify WO 92/18690 by including water cooled tubed walls as taught by Hamm for the purpose of providing heat exchange. The applicant is merely combining prior art according to known methods to yield predictable results. Engstrom teaches at least a portion of the ... of the cavity walls is formed of the ... of the at least one of the walls of the boiler, the cavity wall ... is at least partially formed of the wall of the boiler, the cavity wall is at least partially formed of the at least one wall of the furnace (4, 13, combustion chamber), for the purpose of recovering energy. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify WO 92/18690 by including at least a portion of the ... of the cavity walls is formed of the ... of the at least one of the walls of the boiler as taught by Engstrom for the purpose of recovering energy to provide for a more efficient system. The applicant is using the known technique of providing for a common wall between the combustion

chamber and the boiler to improve similar devices in the same way. WO 92/18690 in view of Engstrom (4676177) discloses the claimed invention except for the cooling fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520 C, , and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520°C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C, and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature in a range of 480°C to 5200 C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to the cooling fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520 C, passing fluid from the superheater in the gas passage of the boiler to a heat exchanger in the cavity, and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520°C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C, and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature in a range of 480°C to 5200 C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C, since it has been held that the where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art.

Claims 5, 7, 9-12, 14, 15, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamm (2606103) in view of Engstrom (4676177). Hamm shows a boiler further comprising a water or steam circulation system having superheaters and a furnace for recovering energy and chemicals from spent liquor combusted in the furnace (10, A, fig. 1); walls of the boiler further comprising a plurality of water cooled tubes in fluid communication with the water or steam circulation system, water cooled tubes, (1, fig. 1); at least one cavity separate from the

boiler, said cavity having cavity walls formed of water cooled tubes in fluid communication with the water cooled tubes in at least one of the walls of the boiler and the water or steam circulation system (16, 17, 27, 10, fig. 1); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (14, fig. 1); at least one outlet for discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (fig. 1), and an interior of the at least one cavity having a cavity heat exchanger for superheating steam generated by superheaters in the boiler (15, fig. 1), a part of the walls of the at least one cavity is formed of the water cooled tubes of the boiler (16, fig. 2), the at least one cavity is located on a front wall of the boiler, and the front wall is the at least one of the walls of the boiler³ (fig. 1), the at least one outlet for the cavity is connected to the boiler and provides a conduit for combustion gases from the at least one cavity to be discharged immediately upstream of the superheaters of the boiler (fig. 1), a boiler further comprising at least one wall defining a furnace (fig. 1), at least one liquor injector arranged to inject liquor into the furnace (2, fig. 1), and at least one superheater arranged in a flue gas passage for combustion gases generated in the furnace (10, fig. 1), a plurality of water cooled tubes arranged in the at least one wall defining the furnace (fig. 1); at least one cavity separate from the furnace and having walls formed of water cooled tubes (fig. 2), wherein fluid flowing through at least one of the water cooled tubes of the wall defining the furnace (10) flows through the water cooled tubes of the cavity (17) and to the at least one superheater (16, fig. 1); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (14, fig. 1); at least one outlet of the cavity for discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (fig. 1), and an interior of the at least one cavity being provided with a heat exchanger which receives superheated steam from the at least one superheater (10, 27, 17, 16, fig. 1), the liquor injector discharges spent liquor into the furnace (2, fig. 1), the at least one superheater is a

plurality of superheaters arranged in a flue gas stream of the boiler (10, fig. 1), a part of the walls of the at least one cavity is formed of the water cooled tubes of the walls of the boiler (16, fig. 1), the at least one cavity is located on a front wall of the boiler (fig. 1), the at least one outlet for combustion gases is connected to the boiler and provides a conduit for combustion gases from the at least one cavity to be discharged immediately upstream of the superheaters of the boiler (fig. 1), the cavity is adjacent an outside surface of the at least one wall of the furnace (fig. 1), injecting spent liquor in the furnace to generate hot combustion flue gases in the furnace (2, fig. 1), cooling the at least one wall of the furnace by flowing cooling fluid through the wall (1, fig. 1), generating hot combustion gases in the cavity (fig. 1); cooling a cavity wall of the cavity by flowing the cooling fluid from the at least one wall of the furnace through the cavity wall (fig. 1); and passing cooling fluid from the wall of the cavity to a superheater arranged in a flue gas passage of the boiler (10, 27, 17, 16, fig. 1), the hot combustion gases in the cavity are discharged into the boiler upstream of the superheater (fig. 1), comprising passing fluid from the superheater in the gas passage of the boiler to a heat exchanger in the cavity (10, 27, 17, 16, fig. 1), the cooling fluid flows vertically upward through the wall of the furnace and then to the cavity (fig. 1), passing fluid from the superheater in the gas passage of the boiler to a heat exchanger in the cavity (fig. 1). Engstrom teaches at least a portion of the at least one of the ... of the cavity are formed of at least one of the ... of the walls of the boiler, the cavity wall ... is at least partially formed of the at least one wall of the furnace (4, 13, combustion chamber), a gasifier (1) for gasifying biomass material and said gasifier produces combustion gas provided to the fuel combustor of the cavity (combustion chamber) for the purpose of recovering energy. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Hamm

(2606103) by including at least a portion of the ... of the cavity walls is formed of the ... of the at least one of the walls of the boiler, a gasifier for gasifying biomass material and said gasifier produces combustion gas provided to the fuel combustor of the cavity, the cavity wall ... is at least partially formed of the wall of the boiler as taught by Engstrom for the purpose of recovering energy to provide for a more efficient system. The applicant is using the known technique of providing for a common wall between the combustion chamber and the boiler to improve similar devices in the same way. Hamm in view of Engstrom discloses the claimed invention except for the cooling fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520 C, and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520°C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C, and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature in a range of 480°C to 5200 C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to the cooling fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520 C, passing fluid from the superheater in the gas passage of the boiler to a heat exchanger in the cavity, and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature no greater than 520°C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C, and wherein the fluid in the superheater is heated to a temperature in a range of 480°C to 5200 C and the fluid in the heat exchanger is heated to a temperature in a range of 500°C to 600°C, since it has been held that the where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art.

Claims 28- 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 92/18690 in view of Olausson (5454908). WO 92/18690 discloses injecting spent liquor in the furnace to generate hot combustion flue gases in the boiler (40, fig. 1), directing the flue gases through a flue gas passage of the furnace (fig. 1), generating hot combustion gases in the cavity; (fig. 1), injecting the hot combustion gases from the cavity into the furnace at an opening in the furnace proximate to a narrow portion of the flue gas passage (line with arrow above 51), wherein the narrow portion is more narrow than an upstream portion of the furnace where the hot combustion flue gases are generated (fig.), the injection of the hot combustion gases from the cavity mixes in the narrow portion with the flue gas in the flue gas passage ((This mixing will inherently occur when the combustion gases pass around superheating surface.), the narrow portion includes a bull nose section in a side wall of the flue gas passage and the hot combustion gases from the cavity are injected into an opening on a sidewall of the flue gas passage (fig.1), the injection of the hot combustion gases from the cavity shapes the flue gas (fig. 1). Olausson teaches as the flue gas flows past the narrow portion, opposite to the bull nose section, so as to flow over the narrow portion and into an expansion portion of the flue gas passage above the narrow portion, promoting selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR) to bring the flue gases to a temperature suitable for SNCR (8, fig.) for the purpose of mixing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify WO 92/18690 by including as the flue gas flows past the narrow portion, opposite to the bull nose section, so as to flow over the narrow portion and into an expansion portion of the flue gas passage above the narrow portion as taught by Olausson for the purpose of mixing. Locating the injection point as taught by Olausson to promote mixing and thus temperature change as the flue gas flows past the nose merely improves similar devices

in the same way as the gas will penetrate the flue gas better and provide for better mixing and temperature change when the cross section of the flue gas passage is reduced at the nose.

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 92/18690 in view of Olausson. WO 92/18690 discloses a boiler including walls defining a furnace and a flue gas passage (fig. 1), at least one liquor injector (40) arranged to inject liquor into the furnace, and at least one superheater (15) arranged in the flue gas passage for combustion gases generated in the furnace and flowing through the flue gas passage ; water cooled tubes arranged in at least one of the walls defining the furnace (page 13, lines 27-30); a combustion cavity (22)separate from the furnace and having a cavity wall formed of water cooled tubes (72); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (end of 62); a cavity combustion gas outlet discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (arrow above 51), wherein the combustion gas outlet is proximate a narrow section of the flue gas passage and the combustion gases from the cavity mix in the narrow section with flue gases passing through the narrow section (This mixing will inherently occur when the combustion gases pass around superheating surface.), the narrow section is a bull nose section of the flue gas passage and the combustion gas outlet is at an elevation (fig. 1), A method of superheating steam in a recovery boiler having at least one wall defining a furnace (fig. 1)and a separate combustion cavity (22) having a cavity wall formed of water cooled tubes (72), wherein the water cooled tubes are in fluid communication with water cooled tubes in the walls defining the furnace (51), said method comprising: a. injecting spent liquor (40) and air in the furnace to generate hot combustion flue gases in the boiler; b. generating hot combustion gases in the cavity (22), c. injecting the hot combustion gases from the cavity into the furnace (arrow above 51), the hot combustion gases from the cavity are

injected, the hot combustion gases from the cavity are discharged (arrow above 51), the hot combustion gases from the cavity are mixed with the air from step (a) (This will inherently occur). Olausson teaches at an elevation substantially the same as an elevation of the bull nose section, for shaping a flow pattern of flue gases in the boiler to improve mixing, through vertically located ports in the walls defining the furnace, for shaping a flow pattern of the flue gases in the furnace (8, fig.) for the purpose of mixing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify WO 92/18690 by including at an elevation substantially the same as an elevation of the bull nose, section, for shaping a flow pattern of flue gases in the boiler to improve mixing, through vertically located ports in the walls defining the furnace, for shaping a flow pattern of the flue gases in the furnace as taught by Olausson for the purpose of mixing. Locating the injection point as taught by Olausson to promote mixing and thus temperature change as the flue gas flows past the nose merely improves similar devices in the same way as the gas will penetrate the flue gas better and provide for better mixing and temperature change when the cross section of the flue gas passage is reduced at the nose.

Claims 28- 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ham in view of Olausson (5454908). Ham discloses injecting spent liquor in the furnace to generate hot combustion flue gases in the boiler (2, fig. 1), directing the flue gases through a flue gas passage of the furnace (fig. 1), generating hot combustion gases in the cavity; (fig. 1), injecting the hot combustion gases from the cavity into the furnace at an opening in the furnace (fig. 1), the injection of the hot combustion gases from the cavity mixes with the flue gas in the flue gas passage (This inherently occurs), the hot combustion gases from the cavity are injected into an opening on a sidewall of the flue gas passage (fig.1), the injection of the hot combustion gases

from the cavity shapes the flue gas (fig. 1). Olausson teaches proximate to a narrow portion of the flue gas passage, the narrow portion includes a bull nose section in a side wall of the flue gas passage and, as the flue gas flows past the narrow portion, opposite to the bull nose section, so as to flow over the narrow portion and into an expansion portion of the flue gas passage above the narrow portion, promoting selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR) to bring the flue gases to a temperature suitable for SNCR (8, fig.), in the narrow portion, wherein the narrow portion is more narrow than an upstream portion of the furnace where the hot combustion flue gases are generated (5, fig.) for the purpose of mixing and for the purpose of drawing the gases. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ham by including proximate to a narrow portion of the flue gas passage, the narrow portion includes a bull nose section in a side wall of the flue gas passage and as the flue gas flows past the narrow portion, opposite to the bull nose section, so as to flow over the narrow portion and into an expansion portion of the flue gas passage above the narrow portion, promoting selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR) to bring the flue gases to a temperature suitable for SNCR, in the narrow portion, wherein the narrow portion is more narrow than an upstream portion of the furnace where the hot combustion flue gases are generated as taught by Olausson for the purpose of mixing. Locating the injection point as taught by Olausson to promote mixing and thus temperature change as the flue gas flows past the nose merely improves similar devices in the same way as the gas will penetrate the flue gas better and provide for better mixing and temperature change when the cross section of the flue gas passage is reduced at the nose.

Claim 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ham in view of Olausson. Ham discloses a boiler including walls defining a furnace and a flue gas passage

(fig. 1), at least one liquor injector (2) arranged to inject liquor into the furnace, and at least one superheater (fig.) arranged in the flue gas passage for combustion gases generated in the furnace and flowing through the flue gas passage ; water cooled tubes arranged in at least one of the walls defining the furnace (1); a combustion cavity (fig. 1) separate from the furnace and having a cavity wall formed of water cooled tubes (16); a fuel combustor arranged in the at least one cavity (14); a cavity combustion gas outlet discharging combustion gases from the cavity to the boiler (fig.), wherein the combustion gas outlet ... and the combustion gases from the cavity mix in ... with flue gases passing through (This mixing will inherently occur.), the combustion gas outlet is at an elevation (fig. 1), A method of superheating steam in a recovery boiler having at least one wall defining a furnace (fig. 1) and a separate combustion cavity (14) having a cavity wall formed of water cooled tubes (16), wherein the water cooled tubes are in fluid communication with water cooled tubes in the walls defining the furnace (28), said method comprising: a. injecting spent liquor (2) and air (5) in the furnace to generate hot combustion flue gases in the boiler; b. generating hot combustion gases in the cavity (14), c. injecting the hot combustion gases from the cavity into the furnace (fig. 1), the hot combustion gases from the cavity are injected, the hot combustion gases from the cavity are discharged (fig. 1), the hot combustion gases from the cavity are mixed with the air from step (a) (This will inherently occur), the water cooled tubes of the cavity wall are in fluid communication with the water cooled tubes in the walls defining the furnace (2728, 16), and the system including: a superheater (1) in the furnace generating superheated steam, and a cavity heat exchanger (16) receiving superheated steam from the superheaters in the furnace. Olausson teaches is proximate a narrow section of the flue gas passage, the narrow section, the narrow section is a bull nose section of

the flue gas passage and , at an elevation substantially the same as an elevation of the bull nose section, for shaping a flow pattern of flue gases in the boiler to improve mixing, through vertically located ports in the walls defining the furnace, for shaping a flow pattern of the flue gases in the furnace (8, fig.) for the purpose of mixing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ham by including is proximate a narrow section of the flue gas passage, the narrow section, the narrow section is a bull nose section of the flue gas passage and , at an elevation substantially the same as an elevation of the bull nose section, for shaping a flow pattern of flue gases in the boiler to improve mixing, through vertically located ports in the walls defining the furnace, for shaping a flow pattern of the flue gases in the furnace as taught by Olausson for the purpose of mixing. Locating the injection point as taught by Olausson to promote mixing and thus temperature change as the flue gas flows past the nose merely improves similar devices in the same way as the gas will penetrate the flue gas better and provide for better mixing and temperature change when the cross section of the flue gas passage is reduced at the nose.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to KENNETH B. RINEHART at telephone number (571)272-4881.

/Kenneth B Rinehart/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3743